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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

4 AUGUST 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Jose – Study: Ransomware Hit Nearly 50% of Businesses in 2015

(U) Last year nearly half of businesses were attacked with ransomware, which caused 34% of enterprises to lose revenue and 20% to cease operations immediately. This discovery comes from a new report called "State of Ransomware" published by Malwarebytes. The anti-malware software vendor partnered with Osterman Research to learn more about the severity of the ransomware risk. Their survey measured the frequency of cyber-security attacks, how attacks work within the enterprise, infiltration points, ransom cost, impact, and company preparedness, among other factors.

SOURCE: 3 August 2016, [Information Week](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – 33 US Military Personnel Infected with Zika

(U) Washington – Thirty-three members of the US military, including a pregnant woman, are believed to have contracted the mosquito-borne Zika virus overseas, the Pentagon said yesterday. A Pentagon spokesman, said the US service members are believed to have been infected outside the continental United States, but cautioned that it is hard to tell where exactly they may have contracted Zika.

SOURCE: 3 August 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) District of Columbia – DHS Advising Election Officials on Cyber Security

(U) Washington – The Department of Homeland Security is preparing advice for election officials to better protect electronic voting machines, online ballots and vote counts from hackers, following the high-profile breach of Democratic National Committee emails, the head of the department said yesterday. "We are actively thinking about election cyber security right now," Jeh Johnson said. Any effort to guard election computers from being breached is complicated by the fact that there are more than 9,000 different voting jurisdictions in the US and each has its own leadership and way of operating, he said.

SOURCE: 3 August 2016, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) Maine – Norwegian Man Accused of Threatening Police

(U) Portland – Police in Maine's largest city have charged a Norwegian man with making threats against officers via email and Twitter. City police say 28-year-old Espen Brungodt was unarmed and offered no resistance when he was arrested at a Portland hotel yesterday afternoon on federal charges of transmitting threatening communications. Press reports that the threat came from someone who said it was "time for more police to die." The email sender threatened to "shoot and kill" officers. Police treated the threats seriously. A parking garage was checked for explosives and a courthouse was evacuated.

SOURCE: 3 August 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Maryland – Pipe Bomb Explodes Under Police Cruiser

(U) Thurmont – The federal bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives says it's assisting in the

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investigation of an apparent pipe-bombing that damaged a police vehicle in the Maryland town of Thurmont. The explosion sent shrapnel into a nearby house caused damage to the cruiser's windshield. The officer who was using the cruiser was not injured. Investigators were not ruling anything out because of recent incidents where police officers have been targeted.

SOURCE: 3 August 2016, [CBS News](#) and [Associated Press](#)

(U) New York – 43 Gang Members Arrested in Busts

(U) Brooklyn – Prosecutors in New York City say 43 gang members have been charged in two separate takedowns. Brooklyn's district attorney said Wednesday that 25 gang members have been charged in a 67-count indictment with murder and other charges in connection with eight shootings. In Queens, 18 members of another street crew have been charged in a 90-count indictment with conspiring to shoot rival gang members.

SOURCE: 3 August 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) North Carolina – Man Arrested for Allegedly Trying to Organize ISIL-Inspired Attacks in US

(U) Charlotte – A North Carolina man has been arrested by the FBI for allegedly trying to recruit people to train and launch Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)-inspired terrorist attacks inside the US homeland. Erick Jamal Hendricks was arrested after allegedly contacting several people over social media online, including a man in Ohio who pledged his allegiance to ISIL and attempted to purchase an AK-47 from an undercover law enforcement officer, according to the Justice Department. Hendricks had also allegedly been in touch with Elton Simpson, one of the two men who conducted the failed attack on the "First Annual Muhammad Art Exhibit and Contest" in Garland, Texas.

SOURCE: 4 August 2016, [ABC News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Trinidad – Nine Trinidadians Sought to Join ISIL**

(U) Port of Spain – The government of Trinidad and Tobago has reportedly confirmed that nine of its citizens will be deported from Turkey after being detained while trying to enter Syria or Iraq to join ISIL. In its most recent Country Report on Terrorism, the State Department said that more than 70 nationals of Trinidad and Tobago are believed to be fighting with ISIL in Syria.

SOURCE: 3 August 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) United Kingdom – American Killed, Five Hurt in London Knife Attack

(U) London – The suspect arrested in the slaying of an American woman in a knife rampage in a busy London tourist area is a Norwegian teenager of Somali origin, police said today. Police said their investigation suggested mental illness was the driving force behind the attack last night in which five other people were injured. "So far we have found no evidence of radicalization or anything that would suggest the man in our custody was motivated by terrorism," a police spokesman said.

SOURCE: 4 August 2016, [Associated Press](#)

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